

FLORIDA THE
LEADING STATEHighest Production Per Acre Of
Any of the Big Crop States

\$125,000,000 INCOME

Yearly Orange or Cotton Crops More Than
Sum Paid Spain for the State—Phos-
phate and Lumber Big Industries

Just at the present time greater curiosity is being shown by the home-seeking public, more questions being asked and more attention being paid to the State of Florida than to any other state in the Union. And this is not at all wonderful when a knowledge of the conditions and opportunities existing there are known, says the Manufacturers' Record.

This attention is not being attracted alone by reason of the splendid climatic and other conditions making for pleasant and comfortable home life in that state, but quite as much for the reason that, while pleasant and comfortable homes have been and are being established, the opportunities for profit-making from the soil are unsurpassed by those of any state in the nation. And this is true, not of any particular portion of the state, but of the whole state.

Florida, as a whole, has the highest production per acre of any of the big crop-producing states. The United States Department of Agriculture year book shows earnings per acre at the following figures:

Illinois, \$31.54; Wisconsin, \$28.84; Pennsylvania, \$30.84; Alabama, \$56.58; Texas, \$54.56; Florida, \$63.60.

It is not surprising that, with these conditions as to both pleasant and profitable life becoming known and understood by the people of the more inclement latitude, the farm homes of Florida are being rapidly built up, and that more lands are now being sold to homeseekers each month than were sold during the entire year only a few years ago.

Florida has cheap lands as compared with other sections of the country. It has the widest diversity of product. It is in a latitude and has a climate which makes the harvest time earlier, with a large part of the product going upon the market with little competition, thus securing the best prices. It has a longer growing season, with as high as four crops from the same land during the year. Florida is one of the best timber states and the cost of building material is reasonable, it is unnecessary to build expensive frost-proof houses, the winter brings no heavy fuel and clothing bills and both home-building and home-supporting expenses are at the minimum.

With her system of rivers and inland navigable waters, her enormous coast line and her great ocean ports at Jacksonville, Tampa, Pensacola and Miami cheap transportation is an insured feature and complete control of railroad rates can be had.

United States Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, in an address before the session of the National Congress of Farmers, recently held, said: "The place for the farmer now is the South, for the soil in the South is friendly to nearly every product of the country."

To give a few illustrations of the speed with which settlement and development is now going in Florida, mention may be made of the following, culled from our exchanges:

Fourteen thousand acres near Tampa, known as the Keystone park Colony, was laid out in ten, twenty and forty acre farms last fall and sold in an astonishingly short space of time, and the same people are now laying out an additional ten thousand acres in the neighborhood while developing many thousand acres of truck lands on the outskirts of Tampa.

At St. Cloud last August there was only a sur-eyor's shack, but now over 700 population.

Fifteen thousand acres southeast of Lake City are being colonized by Illinois capitalists.

Other capitalists are colonizing 30,000 acres in Orange, Osceola and Polk counties.

Sixty thousand acres midway between Orlando and Kissimmee is being rapidly sold.

These are but a few of many illustrations of the development now going on in Florida.

Quoting Herbert N. Casson in Munsey's Magazine:

"Florida is a land of many colors—a rainbow land of green palm, red poinsettias, blue waters, white beaches and yellow oranges.

"Men are now finding gold in Florida—not in mines, but in forests, farms, fisheries and factories. Not all the gold that was found in Nevada and Arizona last year, for instance, would equal the wealth that went to Florida for her fruits and vegetables; nor would the total output of Alaskan gold mines be enough to buy the cigars of Tampa and Key West.

"There are enough golden oranges and grapefruits in her groves this winter to pay the price—\$5,000,000—that the United States paid to Spain for the territory in 1821. She will have enough

cotton and tobacco, both of the highest quality, to bring her \$5,000,000 more; and the lumber that Floridians shipped from their five seaports in 1908 was sold for \$10,000,000.

"Phosphate is probably the most precious natural product of the state. It is a plant food, used to enrich the soil. A village doctor was the first to discover it, thirty years ago, and since then Florida has sold \$60,000,000 worth mostly to Germany and other European countries. This sum seems large enough but it is a trifle compared to what Florida will make from her phosphate when she learns to use every ton of it at home enriching the soil of her own farms and gardens.

"What with this buried treasure of phosphate, the riches of her soil and trees and waters and workshops, and the earnings of the tourist season, the people who now live in Florida have a yearly income of more than \$125,000,000. This amount, we may observe to the countrymen of Ponce de Leon, is very nearly equal to the present governmental revenue of the Kingdom of Spain.

"It can be said that no other state is farther from the gates of death than Florida. Her average death rate is about 6 per thousand, and she has seventy-one veterans who have rounded out a full century and are still in the land of the living.

"She allows the soil and sunshine to work for you every day, so that farming becomes a continuous performance. If a crop fails, there is no need to wait until next year, you can plant a new crop tomorrow."

GOOD ADVICE TO NEW
FLORIDA SETTLERS

Friends, be honest with Florida. Do not come here from portions of the country where land is worth up into the hundreds and expect the same advantages of good roads, plenty of neighbors and all the improvements which are bound to come in a densely settled country.

If Florida was settled up to the limit of what she is capable of supporting her lands instead of being sold for tens of dollars per acre could not be touched for hundreds of dollars, for here with our three or more crops a year the returns on the investment would be far greater than anywhere else.

Come here with the expectation of being learners, and take into careful consideration your experience, or lack of experience, the amount invested and be content to work for a moderate remuneration if necessary, with the knowledge that as the State settles up your holdings will increase in value and you will thus accumulate a competence as you grow older.

Many people come here, and conscious of their knowledge gained from experience in other parts of the country, deery the seeming slipshod methods of the native population and endeavor to work along what to them appear to be more modern lines. These people in many cases, make a miserable failure, and consequently the whole State is condemned.

The safest way is to assume that these methods are possibly the result of a cause which cannot be discerned by the new-comer; let him begin his work along nearly similar lines and then make modifications as he sees his way. Don't come with the idea that you know it all. Don't come with the intention of making much out of nothing, and above all do not get it into your head that good horse sense and plenty of hard work or sufficient capital to buy the labor of others, will not stand you in hand.—Florida Agriculturist.

The Baptist Workers will meet at the home of Mrs. Keefer, Wednesday, March 2nd. At the last meeting, the members decided to discuss some topic at each meeting. The topic for the coming meeting will be Christian Love.

DELIGHTFUL PARTY
AT ANKONA HOME

Mrs. Anna M. Chamberlain entertained some of her near neighbors informally Wednesday evening at Del-Cerro grove, Ankona. Progressive ten-minute five hundred was played and when the score cards were footed up it found that the head prize had been won by David Eldred, while the foot prize went to Mrs. Peter Ankeny. The prizes were cleverly woven fruit baskets in which "Florida rattan" was used to completely enclose, in one an orange and in the other a grapefruit.

Refreshments were served, after which the hostess favored her guests with two of Grieg's beautiful songs, followed by a bright selection of her own composition. This is the first time that Mrs. Chamberlain has been heard in public on the East Coast. She possesses a rich, powerful soprano, thoroughly trained by one of Berlin's best instructors and those present voted her performance a treat. It is said that this singer will soon give the first of a series of master composer home recitals.

The social evening was given in honor of W. B. Chamberlain, of Minneapolis, who has been spending a fortnight with his family, and who returned to the Northwest Friday. Mr. Chamberlain is associate editor of the Minneapolis Journal.

MUST QUALIFY
BY APRIL 9THNew Primary Law Makes That
Last Day to Pay Poll Tax

PAYMENT IS PERSONAL

Collector Cannot Accept Poll Tax From
Other Than Voter Accept When Paid
With Real or Personal Tax

Few Floridians are thoroughly posted in regard to the requirements of the new State law as regards qualifying for participation in the selection of party nominees. The new law regarding the payment of poll taxes, section 16, chapter 5,928, laws of 1909, reads as follows:

"Section 16. Any tax collector or person acting under his authority or direction, who receives or permits to be received any money or other thing of value in payment of poll or capitation taxes, from any person, firm, association, or corporation, either by check, draft or any other method of payment, or any tax collector issuing a poll tax receipt without payment in advance thereof, other than the person whose poll or capitation taxes is to be paid, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than three months: Provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any person paying, or any tax collector from collecting the poll tax due by another person from any other person, who shall also pay, upon request of the person owing the poll or capitation tax the real and personal taxes of the person for whom he offers to pay the capitation or poll tax: Provided, that where the payment of poll or capitation tax is necessary to qualify voters for participation in the primaries herein provided for, that such poll or capitation tax shall be paid not later than the second Saturday in the month preceding the month in which such primary is held."

In order to qualify as an elector in the provisions of the new law, a person must pay his poll taxes for the two years preceding the year in which such election is held on or before the second Saturday in the month, preceding the month in which such election is held. This means that April 9th is the time limit given persons to pay their poll taxes and become qualified electors in the primaries of this year. And the voter must pay his own poll taxes, unless it is paid by another when his realty tax is paid. Those voters having no realty tax to pay must pay their poll taxes individually and personally in future, and the practice which has frequently prevailed in Florida of candidates paying the poll taxes of large numbers of prospective supporters in a "bunch" is now unlawful and not to be permitted.

It is well that the Democratic voter who desires to register his choice in the approaching primaries take note of the requirement and make it his business to pay up his poll taxes before April 9. It is an essential preliminary to participating in the selection of nominees for the many important offices within the gift of the people of Florida this year. And it is also safe to attend to this matter at the earliest convenience, thus avoiding the possibility of being crowded out in the rush which will be sure to mark the last few days of the qualifying period.

TALIAFERRO IS BUSY

(Telegram.)

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21, 1910.

Editor TRIBUNE:

Senator Taliaferro introduced in the Senate today a bill asking for an appropriation of \$100,000 to make a twelve foot channel into Santa Lucia inlet, and will urge passage.

C. A. ROBINSON.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex St. Clair Abrams, of Jacksonville, and Mrs. W. H. Tompkins, of Titusville, are registered this week at the Atlantic Hotel, Mr. Abrams and Mr. Tompkins having business before the circuit court now in session here.

PANAMA CELEBRATION
IS SPLENDID SUCCESS

Opened last Saturday by Ambassador Bryce, who delivered a memorable address through which the advantages of Florida have been advertised throughout America and Europe, being published in hundreds of large newspapers, the Panama Canal Celebration at Tampa which will close tomorrow Saturday, February 26th, has proved to be the

most successful celebration of any kind ever held in the South. Immense crowds from every section of the United States are attending, and the Tampa Board of Trade has large committees at work day and night looking after their wants. Every feature of the big celebration is proving even more successful than was at first anticipated.

No features have proven more attractive than the aeroplane and airship flights and races, which began Monday. Some of the fastest flying machines in the world, including the aeroplane in which Glenn Curtiss, the American aviator, made his wonderful flights in France, are on the grounds. Another great feature is the maneuvers of the cavalry infantry and artillery companies of the United States army, which occur on the celebration grounds each afternoon and evening. Thousands are also visiting the American, Italian, Cuban and other war vessels in Tampa and Hillsboro bays, which are the first big war vessels to visit Tampa.

According to the estimates of Gov. Gilchrist and other noted men who participated in the monster pageant, fully 100,000 people, representing all sections of the United States, witnessed the Washington birthday civic and growth-showing parade, in which leading cities and towns of South Florida were represented. From Twenty-second street, Ybor City to the Bay extremity of Hyde Park avenue, a distance of four miles, the streets, balconies, windows and trees were filled with eager men, women and children and the pageant which they saw more than met the expectation of every person.

SPEED KINGS WILL
SLASH AUTO RECORD

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the Florida East Coast Automobile Association it was decided that the 1910 Daytona Beach speed carnival would be held on March 22, 23 and 24. For several months past it seems as though the fastest automobile race course in the world would be abandoned, and it was not until the Benz and Fiat enthusiasts engaged in a controversy as to which of the two Brooklands track cars was the faster, the owners agreeing to decide the question on the Daytona Beach, that the local interest was revived. Then the officials and members of the Florida East Coast Automobile Association became active in planning for the coming speedfast.

E. W. C. Arnold, of New York, owner of the Lewis Strange Fiat, and Barney Oldfield, the track champion, who recently purchased the Hemmery Benz, which travelled faster on the Brooklands track than Marriott in his steamer did on the Florida sands, are now arranging details of the proposed match which will be the "piece de resistance" of the match meeting.

Oldfield is confident he can cover a mile in 25 or 26 seconds which will of course beat the mile record of 28-1-5 second made by Marriott in 1906.

There will be four or five races of different classes of cars scheduled each day of the meet, and the Minneapolis, Sir Thomas Dewar, Gold speed King (two-miles a minute) and other rich trophies will be awarded winners of races.

The meet will be under the sanction of the American Automobile Association and Chairman S. M. Butler, of the national contest board, has been selected as referee.

T. E. Fitzgerald, secretary of the Daytona organization will have active charge of details of the speed carnival.

A sociable will be given at the home of Mr. N. J. Cooper, this (Friday) evening, February 25, by the Baptist Young People's Union. This will be a free sociable, and we want all to come and enjoy themselves. Those who will help to entertain are Misses DeHay, Holmes Edwards, Trowell, Jewell, Pearl and Ruby Swain, and Lyda Richards.

GOOD ROAD MEETING
IN HALL TO-MORROW

Under engagement of the Road Bond Trustees of St. Lucie county, D. H. Winslow, of Washington, D. C., United States Superintendent of Road Construction, will address the people of St. Lucie county in the Improvement club hall, tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon at 2 o'clock, on the subject of "Roads and Maintenance."

Mr. Winslow is regularly detailed by the government to such places as ask for his services, where he not only informs the officers and people of the very latest improved methods of road construction, but makes a personal investigation of every available material. He is spending the week with one of the trustees, G. E. Dutton, inspecting our roads and available material, and will be well posted on all subjects of road building and maintenance as applied to our county.

It is hoped that a large and representative audience will meet the speaker on this occasion who announces that he will endeavor to answer all questions on road building that anyone cares to ask. Much benefit will undoubtedly result to St. Lucie county.

James Knight Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., is registered at the Fort Pierce Hotel for the balance of the season.

ARE PEOPLE
REPRESENTEDDo Present Representatives Serve
as Allies to Corporations?

A GROWER'S INQUIRY

Necessary to Secure Men Who Are Free
And Fearless and True to People—In-
vites Thorough Investigation

The following communication, which speaks for itself, is from the pen of T. W. Mather, of Little River, and is addressed to the members of the East Coast Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association.

Some time ago, one of the directors of the East Coast Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association asked me "do you think our association should be into politics to the extent of recommending to the voters certain candidates for Congress and the State Assembly?"—meaning, of course, men who would be safely on the side of the people in any corporation fight. I answered emphatically, "Yes, why not? Why not indeed? We are sorely in need of such men."

Have we now in Congress a single Senator or Representative from Florida whose personal interests are not more or less tied up with our friends the railroads? Could we depend on one of them to work and vote for our interests in perference? And yet some of these same men now come forward and cheerfully ask us to re-elect them! They "point with pride," they "challenge investigation."

Well, I for one am in favor of a most thorough investigation; but it should be by men who know our needs; who can not readily be fooled; who are not afraid to speak, and fight, and recommend. Why should the directors hesitate?

Senator Taliaferro and Representative Frank Clark want vindication. They are chiefly supported by newspapers known to be owned or controlled by the East Coast Railroad Co., whose president, a short time ago, emphatically told our committee that his company would "fight you to the bitter end." Is this support a part of the fight? Is he to have the exquisite pleasure of making us elect the men he wants? Was there ever impudence more sublime? What do our directors think of this?

There are other national candidates—Claude L'Engle, and—ex-Governor Broward. The ex-Governor we all know, and many of us admire and respect him for the good work he has done, and for the enemies he has made. But I, for one, only know of L'Engle as a rather bright political editor. Is he with us? Can we trust him? Would he be a man of weight in the United States Senate? I wish our directors would investigate and let us know. He may be an ideal man, but we want to know.

Of Mr. Zim, I also know nothing, for or against. We need a forceful, energetic, influential man as our representative in Washington,—one who could be trusted to work and vote on the right side in the gigantic struggle impending between the people and predatory corporations. If our directors are not satisfied, they should bring forward another candidate.

Growers, and merchants, and men of every trade were never before as well organized and determined as now; but they want leaders they can trust. The East Coast Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association represents all, because the interests of all are identical. It is strong in number and influence; its officers will not be suspected of self-seeking, and their advice will carry great weight. Let us have the benefit.

Famous Minstrels Coming

Honest endeavor will always be crowned with success. No doubt this is the reason why Richards & Pringle's Famous Georgia Minstrels have been so long before the public. To make this season better than last, to give the public a better show this year than last has always been the watchword of the management. Worn-out ideas, shabby wardrobe and questionable acts have never found a place in their program. These methods may succeed for a time but the American people are too intelligent to tolerate it for long. Not a questionable word, act or song can find place in the performance given by this company. Heads of families often hesitate to take their mothers, sisters, wives or children to a minstrel show for this reason, but they need have no fear to take them to a performance given by this company. The program is absolutely clean and refined. This company which numbers nearly forty people, will be seen at Improvement Club hall, Friday, February 25. Bring the children out to see the big free street parade at noon.

New Catholic Church in Fort Pierce

The first service will be held in the new Catholic church of St. Anastasia, Sunday, February 27th, as follows: Mass and sermon, 10 a. m.; Sunday school, 11 a. m.; evening service with lecture, 7 p. m. Mass Monday morning at 7:30. An earnest and cordial invitation is extended to all, Catholics and non Catholics.